

SENATE BILL 284

By Burchett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40,
Chapter 17, relative to witnesses at trial.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 17, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

40-17-125.

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any rule or statute to the contrary, in a criminal case the state may call as a witness a forensic interviewer after the victim has testified but regardless of whether the defense has challenged the character of the victim.

(b) The provisions of this section shall only apply in criminal cases where a victim is less than thirteen (13) years of age at the time of the offense and the offense involved is:

- (1) Aggravated child abuse at § 39-15-402;
- (2) Aggravated sexual battery at § 39-13-504;
- (3) Rape of a child at § 39-13-522;
- (4) Aggravated rape of a child at § 39-13-531;
- (5) Solicitation of a minor at § 39-13-528;
- (6) Soliciting sexual exploitation of a minor at § 39-13-529; or
- (7) Sexual exploitation of a minor at §§ 39-17-1003, 39-17-1004 or 39-17-1005.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.